

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application, of which claims 3 - 18 have been withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated July 10, 2001.

As To The Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner reiterates the following rejection:

claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by **Kaneko** (of record).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Significant structural arrangements of the applicants' claimed invention now include a detecting section which detects the amount of characteristic corresponding to a torsion of the transducer caused by an angular moment centered on the supporting position of the weight portion upon application of acceleration in one direction to the transducer and the weight portion.

AMENDMENT

Serial No. 09/397,675

The applied reference of Kaneko fails to disclose such detection features. Instead, in Kaneko, a piezoelectric element attached to a vibrator is driven, and a change in a force when acceleration is applied is detected by the piezoelectric element. That is, a bending of a cantilever beam is detected.

This is in contrast to the present claimed invention, wherein a transducer (piezoelectric element) is not driven, and a twist is caused by an external force or momentum, and force of the twist or distortion is detected. That is, a twist of a cantilever shaft is detected.

Thus, in the present claimed invention, only detection is performed and thus a drive circuit is not required. The simple constitution saves cost, and application of the principle of leverage simplifies the design of a sensor.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney, at the telephone number indicated below, to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

AMENDMENT

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In the event this response is not timely filed, the applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Twice amended) An acceleration sensor for detecting acceleration, comprising:
a transducer;

a weight portion that is connected to the transducer, and supported at a position different from the center of gravity of the transducer and the ~~acceleration sensor~~ weight portion itself; and

a detecting section which detects the amount of characteristic corresponding to a torsion of the transducer caused by an angular moment centered on the supporting position of the weight portion ~~that is exerted in the transducer~~ upon application of an acceleration in one direction to the transducer and the weight portion,

wherein a face of the transducer is made flush with a face of the weight portion.